

# *The Calloused Digit*

by  
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## **Scalia's Name Invoked To Manipulate Average Christians**

With the passing of Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia, those admiring that jurist's particular variety of constitutional originalism stopped to reflect upon his legacy and influence. One thing that the observers of the intersection of the cultural and the theological can count on is the inability of the average Baptist pastor or minister to pass over the opportunity to invoke nearly any event as a rhetorical device for the purposes of berating the congregation as well as anyone else within earshot.

On his website, Russell Moore published a column titled "What The Church Can Learn From Justice Scalia's Life". For the most part, the analysis is an approving appraisal and explanation of Scalia's philosophy of jurisprudence. However, there are points at which Moore can't resist the urge to get in slight digs.

For example, Moore writes, "One can disagree with Scalia on these principles, and one can argue that he occasionally seemed to contradicted them." But the same criticism could just as easily be said regarding Russell Moore.

For example, Moore sits on the board of the National Hispanic Leadership Conference. Would Moore sit on the board of an organization titled the National Confederate Leadership Conference?

From there, Moore proceeds to invoke the death of Justice Scalia as a platform and a pretext from which to bash his fellow Evangelicals.

For example, Moore praises Scalia's prescience to foresee or extrapolate where the judicial rulings of the present might nudge the moral developments of the future. Moore contemplates, "Why were evangelicals so slow to advance the pro-life witness? Why were evangelicals caught so unaware by the shifting family structures in the United States?"

Moore answers these questions that he raises rhetorically by noting that the shortcomings he has pointed out in Evangelical social thought were the result of failing to see ahead of time how culture moves and for in part accommodating the "divorce

revolution". Maybe so, but the answer in part goes beyond that.

Many Evangelicals failed to see the direction in which culture moved because for generations probably up until the time Francis Schaeffer came into prominence and in some circles even later most Evangelicals had been indoctrinated and conditioned to have as little to do as possible with the culture whatsoever. The good Christian, it was often expounded from the pulpit, did not seek to investigate the issues and challenges of the day on their own. Instead, you were simply expected to accept whatever your pastor was willing to tell you about them. An interest in anything beyond the casseroles at the church potluck supper was considered "worldly".

Media and forms of art were considered evil not necessarily on the basis of content but rather in and of themselves. You can't really subject the students in your Christian school to a curriculum consisting of not much more than grammatically diagramming Bible verses and where about the only professionals exhorted as examples to emulate are missionaries to foreign fields and then sit around dumbfounded as to why so few graduates from such settings go on to careers in strategically important fields such as law, medicine, government, or media.

Russell Moore really strives to bore the assembled a new one as he moves towards the conclusion of his analysis. In particular, Moore praises Scalia's aptitude to befriend his opponents.

Of this tendency, Moore writes of Scalia, "He was certainly one of the most combative justices in print and in argument in history. Even so, he had a strong friendship with liberal Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. Was that an inconsistency?"

Moore answers his rhetorical question, "No. This was confidence. He knew that his ideas could prevail, so he didn't see the persons who opposed him as those to be avoided or shunned. He knew that his convictions were clear, so he didn't play tribal politics by isolating himself with an ideological cocoon."

Speaking of “tribal politics”, once again, it must be asked, if Russell Moore enunciates that phrase in such as say as to imbue it with negative connotations, why does he sit on the board of the National Hispanic Leadership Conference? Moore is likely nothing more than the organization's token gringo. For outfits with such ethnically explicit names are all about tribal politics and don't give a rodent's hindquarter about good of the nation as a whole.

Justice Scalia is to be commended for his many contributions in the effort to preserve what little remains of America's constitutional liberties. However, in light of the circumstances surrounding his passing, as with all who achieve lofty status or position (including Russell Moore most likely as well) one will find that his ultimate loyalty was probably to the elite and its continued perpetuation rather than a set of enduring principles necessarily.

For example, the hunting lodge from which Justice Scalia transitioned into the Afterlife was owned by the International Order of St. Hubertus. According to the Washington Post (a mainstream media institution and not Alex Jones mind you), the International Order of St. Hubertus is an order where its exclusively male membership gathers to prance around in silky green robes while slaughtering animals not so much for subsistence hunting but rather for the thrill of taking another creature's life.

Even worse, this organization is itself believed to have ties to Bohemian Grove. For those not familiar with that particular term, that is a place deep in the woods of California where many elites thinking they are so much better than the rest of us that they are the ones that will determine the course of our lives gather before a giant owl statue ritualistically pledging to bring about the New World Order. The ceremonial proceedings usually conclude with drunkenness, occasionally orgies, and (if certain conspiracy theorists are to be believed) sometimes even a human sacrifice or two.

Pastor Moore could have attributed this observation to just an aspect of Scalia's personality that enabled the jurist to find that murky balance between standing for one's principles and the degree of compromise necessary to prevent the political or judicial process from getting eternally mired in interminable gridlock. Instead, Moore utilizes the point to once again bash the mere pewfiller over the head.

Moore writes, “If our friends and acquaintances

are all those who agree with us or our politics, then it could be that politics is our god. And if our friends and acquaintances are all those who agree with our theology, then maybe our talk about mission is just talk.”

If this is how Evangelicals in general and Baptists in particular act in Moore's estimation, much of that fault lies in how the leaders of the movement have indoctrinated their respective congregations, followers, and students (not necessarily in error) over the past several decades.

Among churches of a more doctrinally rigorous nature, it is simply not enough to earn the status of good or even satisfactory Christian by attending worship on a semi-regular basis and to attempt to apply what is taught in such gatherings in the normal course of life. Instead, formal organized religious exercises and church attendance are to become the focal point of one's existence.

For example, you are also obligated to attend Sunday school, Sunday evening, and possibly even a variety of small group studies during a given week if your church is sufficiently large enough where these cell groups are not necessarily so much about studying objective doctrinal content but more about confession and denunciation of shortcomings in a manner not surprisingly different from what might take place in a prisoner of war camp. But if your church isn't large enough to provide an assortment of such groups, fear not. For yours will likely include a midweek service.

This will likely be marketed or specifically presented as a “prayer meeting”. Pewfillers will also be shamed or manipulated into attending from the pulpit as well. The common rhetorical set up for this will begin with explaining how prayer is simply talking with God and who doesn't enjoy talking to or spending time with those we hold most dear. As such, it is concluded, if you fail to show up for prayer meeting, you must not really love God all that much.

But the thing about that conversation is that it really needs to be a two way exchange if the train of thought and ongoing dialog is to consist of more than the equivalent of a telepathic voice message. Furthermore, often what transpires is that pastorally led prayers end up being a combination of an extension of the sermon and newsletter announcements by other means. But at least when the sermon and newsletter announcements are made as sermon and newsletter announcements rather than as

extended prayers, you don't have to sit there with your eyes clamped shut for fear of being called out for it by the pastor who must need the privacy to quickly pick his nose.

This extended exposition must seem like an unrelated tangent. However, it does provide a bit of explanation as to why the Christian probably doesn't have much time to hobnob with reprobates outside of the church.

Of course Justices Scalia, Ginsberg, and even Elena Kagan are probably going to hit it off. Though most aren't going to have the courage to say it, both Roman Catholicism and Judaism are two religions that love their booze. So what exactly are upper class Jews supposed to bond over with blue collar Baptists that have had it drilled into their heads their entire lives (and possibly even rightfully so) to avoid alcohol at all costs? A love of pork barbecue that the Jew isn't even supposed to eat unless they are of the variety that invokes that particular identity not so much because of a devotion to Old Testament teaching but rather as something to invoke quickly to justify an often noticeable hostility towards anything even remotely Christian?

In this situation of whether to interact or separate, the mere pewfiller cannot hope to prevail in terms of avoiding some manner of verbal chastisement. For often these clergy live by a double standard that they would not approve of if they saw it manifested in the lives of their fellow believers.

For example, in Spring 2015, there was a bit of ecumenical excitement in the air as it was announced that NBC planned to broadcast a dramatic miniseries titled "AD". The purpose of the drama was to provide the viewer with a bit of narrative insight into what the early Church centered around the Apostles might have had to deal with following the Resurrection of Christ.

But instead of supporting this undertaking as a respectful attempt by the entertainment industry to present the founding of the Christian faith even if not entirely accurate down to the tiniest painstakingly exact detail but in a way that might spark the curiosity of an individual to investigate further if so inclined, a number of ministers and theologians openly criticized the production. Interestingly, instead of pointing out where the narrative might have strayed from the Biblical record, Pastor Randy White on an episode of "Standing For The Truth" droned on and on about the producer of the miniseries Roma Downey being a

Roman Catholic sympathetic towards the New Age movement. White continued on by calling into question Evangelical leaders such as David Jeremiah that set aside differences with this competing system of theological interpretation to emphasize the common first century heritage shared by these distinct brands of Christianity.

From the vehemence of that particular episode, the average listener might come away with the impression of the importance of limiting one's exposure to Roman Catholics if one wants to be considered the kind of person that puts faith first in one's life. But apparently that is the kind of rule Pastor White expects everyone else to abide by with the exception of himself. This particularly seems to be the case when it comes to individuals that can advance Pastor White's own career or rather ministry (to put it in terms that sound less secular and more pious).

For example, on "Standing For The Truth" (the very same program on which nearly one year prior he condemned fellow Evangelicals that had cooperated with a Roman Catholic in terms of promoting a cinematic production inspired by Biblical sources), Randy White deliberately name-dropped how highly he thought of his good friend Brett Baier who just happened to be a Fox News anchor. White also confessed that Baier also happened to be Roman Catholic but one whom White was proud to call his friend because of Baier's sincerity to do the right thing despite the theological differences that White went out of his way to downplay in this instance. So why can't Roma Downey and her husband Mark Burnett be thought of in a similar fashion as an alley with whom Evangelicals can at times cooperate regarding shared aspects of the faith?

Towards the conclusion of his tirade, Russell Moore pontificated, "And if our friends and acquaintances are all those who agree with out theology, maybe talk about our mission is just talk." In essence, you, average Christian, are to be chewed out from the pulpit if you associate with people that are now Christian as defined in a narrowly dogmatic manner and you are going to apparently be chewed out nor if you don't have any friends that are not Christian in a narrowly defined dogmatic manner.

In response to Dr. Moore's catch 22, is it really the average pewfilling Christian that talks so much about mission? Or is that more so those that run or administer the church and related paraministries?

Missions does have its place in the life of the church and by extension the life of every believer. However, it is the occupational ministerial class that has placed what could legitimately be considered a disproportionate emphasis upon formalized missionary outreach to the exclusion of many other as legitimate Christian undertakings.

For example, back during what seemed the verge of a pending ebola epidemic, Ann Coulter dared question why couldn't those inclined towards acts of piety try rescuing their own homeland from the perils of spiritual destruction for a change rather than these backwards lands from which a single microbe hitching a flight on an unsuspecting airliner could potentially lay waste to much of the industrialized world. For enunciating such insightful speculation, professional religionists castigated and condemned Ann Coulter much more vociferously than they ever

did for her apparel of questionable modesty.

If professional clergy such as Russell Moore want to talk up missions but do nothing about it in terms of their own lives, then it is indeed a problem and they should be criticized for it. However, if the average believer hears these admonitions but after reflection conclude that the Holy Spirit is leading them to focus upon other callings and areas of ministry just as essential to the fulfillment of God's will in this world, there really is not anything regarding this matter that the Christian ought to feel guilty about.

Justice Scalia will be remembered as one of the great minds of the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries. It is too bad the lesser minds of this era have invoked this jurist's name for the purposes of manipulating those over whom they have been granted a modicum of authority and influence.

## **Hit & Run Commentary**

Regarding those that refuse to vote for Trump on moral grounds but are all gungho for the Libertarians this election. Doesn't that party go out of its way to advocate for legalized prostitution? So who are they to insist that things like those articulated by Trump are never to be said to or about women if that is what the customer and the service provider negotiate as an acceptable component of their carnal transaction? I don't imagine those that go to places like the Bunny Ranch make their selections based upon SAT scores and the size of the gal's moral character.

If Megyn Kelley is so opposed to lewd conversation, why did she go on Howard Stern where the primary topic of discussion was her lactating bosom?

Fascinating how the ones applauding Paul Ryan as a statesman of principle for essentially withdrawing his support for Donald Trump rank among those insinuating that Ted Cruz might not even be a "real Christian" for not wholeheartedly endorsing Donald Trump.

Michael Savage flew into a rampage over Shephard Smith warning that those that did not heed hurricane evacuation warnings would likely die. So how was Smith's distinctively exuberant delivery appreciably different in style than Savage's own tirades?

When a pastor claims that the point of his sermon is

not to persuade the listener one way or the other regarding Halloween participation but then proceeds to yell at the top of his lungs as to how wicked Halloween happens to be, isn't that the borderline bearing of false witness? Furthermore, will those found out to hold an opinion different the pastor even if they don't publicly rock the boat to the point of being disruptive be allowed to hold positions of ministry or leadership within the congregation?

The ones insisting that Trump is now unfit for the presidency such as Albert Mohler than turn around and insist that a man that as a result of behaving properly around women was never deemed attractive by women and as a result remained single should regularly be berated by a litany of Biblical injunctions pulled out of context and be condemned as unfit for political or ecclesiastical office.

In a tirade against Halloween that turned into one against Christmas as well, a SermonAudio pastor condemned children that await Santa but don't await Jesus coming in the clouds. That's because they are children. Their lives are not yet necessarily so miserable that the joy has been sucked out (often by professional religionists) that they don't have anything else to look forward to. While he is at it, does the pastor also plan to condemn those anticipating life's other commemorative festivities or

milestones?

In an interview with Bloomberg.com, Russell Moore lamented Evangelicals that align themselves with Mormons over political issues despite the vast theological differences between the two faiths. But isn't that less of an outrage than the resources of good Christians this Baptist functionary directed to support the building of Islamic mosques?

Too bad the federal government is not as eager to enforce the nation's laws as explicitly written as it is to prosecute Sheriff Joe Arpaio for enforcing the laws that at this particular moment the Obama regime deliberately refuses to uphold.

President Obama has admonished Donald Trump to stop his whining. One might respond physician heal thyself but one really ought not to overburden the medical system any further because of the doctor shortage caused by the "Affordable Care Act".

A Hillary campaign commercial categorizes Donald Trump as "America's bully". As if the Obama regime has allowed Christian bakers to pass on baking cakes for gay weddings because of their religious convictions and allowed those happy with their doctor to keep their doctor.

The leftwing media is insinuating that it is dangerous for Trump to insist that the election is rigged. Then how come the media does not take similar linguistic caution when covering trial verdicts where it is pretty much guaranteed that agitated minorities are going to loot electronics and haircare products?

Hegemonic elites thinking that political power ought to be their's by default like some sort of birthright are outraged and dismayed that in the third presidential debate that Donald Trump did not definitively agree to accept the alleged outcome of the election. But to paraphrase Bill Clinton's equivocation regarding the word "is", what exactly does "accept" mean? One could "accept" the outcome of the election by not urging riots in the street but continuing to make remarks about the legitimacy of the outcome for years to come. Al Gore has pursued that particular approach for well over a decade now as a side hussle along with yo-yo dieting and fornicating with massage therapists.

If liberal propagandists are going to insist that

Trump's allegation that the election is rigged threatens and undermines American democracy or rather the republic, do they intend to speak out as forcefully against Black Lives Matters activists and racist subversives?

If you are of such diminished capacity that you can't vote on the designated day and can't think ahead to acquire an absentee ballot, perhaps the nation is better off if you don't vote to begin with.

It was insinuated that apparently people that don't smile much are full of themselves. Perhaps people that aren't inclined to smile were made that way by God. Therefore, aren't the ones thinking they know more than God as to what an individual's underlying personality as a reflection of the divine creator the ones that are really full of themselves?

During the debate, Hillary repeatedly mocked the financial support Trump received early in his business career from his father. So are we to assume Chelsea worked and clawed for everything she has in life, starting off mopping vomit from amusement park thrill rides and fetching carts from Walmart parking lots.

Why shouldn't nasty women be called nasty? Given the logic of those jacked out of shape over Trump's comment, are we to assume that Eva Braun should be spoken of in only the utmost of respect?

It has been suggested that, because his father was against Catholics, Donald Trump should not have been at the Al Smith dinner. Given that logic, since his father despised the United States, shouldn't Barack Obama not been allowed to be President. Given this logic, since Cardinal Dolan has undermined Catholic teaching against homosexuality through acts such as issuing statements favorable of gay pride rallies and closing congregations in favor of those attended by homosexuals, perhaps that particular prelate should not have been invited either.

If assorted leftwing academics (of the sort that usually vote Democratic) insist that objective truth does not exist and to maintain that it does is an imposition of heteronormative Eurocentricism, why are they getting so jacked out of shape if Trump creates his own cognitive milieu where the election results are not legitimate?

A webinar was titled “Cultivating Diversity and Inclusion at Museums and Historic Sites”. In other words, how to alienate your primary visitors and wonder why they don't come back.

The ultrapious in regards to this election have posted that “America is getting what it deserves”. The person making such a comment is an American. As such, if, in the future, police state goons bust the door in to drag this person off to a reeducation camp or a Muslim gangs rapes his wife and hacks off his head, as an American would he be getting exactly what he deserves?

Regarding those that have praised the President of the Philippines as a refreshingly strong leader for giving Obama the proverbial finger. Fine, let us leave and allow the Chinese to take over and brutalize them. Just make sure that it's made explicitly known that this time MacArthur isn't returning.

It was said in a sermon that, if a young man comes to church every week with a different girl, such ought to be condemned. But so long as he is not fornicating with her, is it really any of the church's business?

In a podcast griping about the status of youth in America, a group of pastors in a discussion uploaded to SermonAudio complained how quickly things are produced these days. Instead, they celebrated the pace from the hypothetical era of their grandfathers that relished true craftsmanship. Perhaps they'd also like to return to the conditions of their grandparents' era when people dropped dead from infected blackheads or from appendicitis in their 40's (don't tell me it didn't happen as two of my great grandparents befell such scenarios).

Fuss is being made that the majority of Whites voting for Donald Trump lacked college degrees. As if the minorities voting for Obama for free cellphones and for thinking they would no longer be required to pay their mortgages because such would be taken care of from the President's stash were fonts of common sense and accumulated learning?

Fuss is being made that the majority of Whites voting for Donald Trump lacked college degrees. Given that those needing psychological intervention in the form of play-doh to deal with the election returns and rioting in the streets are primarily those in pursuit of

formalized higher learning, it seems these programs aren't necessarily the measurement of education that they used to be.

Hillary in her concession speech says that America owes the Obama's an enormous debt. Wasn't the record debt accumulated under his regime enough already?

If DC residents are so outraged over the state of their Congressional representation, why don't they move elsewhere or might that disrupt receipt of whatever public assistance program they are on?

Multiculturalism holds all societies are equal with no country being better than any other. If so, why is it that the leftist deadbeats so exasperated over Trump's election victory insist upon fleeing to Canada (which is probably even more lily White than America) as their first destination of refuge rather than Mexico (which we are assured contains a population of only hardworking, law-abiding, family-oriented people).

So if California secession is to be encouraged, why were Southerners threatened, coerced, and intimidated into taking down their Confederate battle flags in the name of national unity?

The sad thing is how people comport themselves intellectually they are so dimwitted that they cannot run their own lives without a President. The government might need a President. Do you really need one directly telling you what to do if you do not work for the national government?

Propagandist Van Jones categorized Trump's election victory as a “whitelash”. If he speaks out against citizens working for change within the established system, is he as condemnatory of those that vocalize their alleged political disapproval through the looting of electronics and haircare products?

Van Jones excused Hillary for not making her concession speech election night because it was well past 2 AM when the winner was determined. But didn't Hillary advertise herself as being the candidate you could reach in the middle of the night if the situation warranted?

A caller to the Chris Plante Show remarked she never felt as proud of her nation as when Trump was elected President. Isn't that as bad a Michelle Obama

saying nearly the same thing? The sad thing is that the greatest political investment is now made into the office that should really mean the least in terms of the influence that it ought to exert over our daily lives.

Countering the observation that there were no riots when Obama was elected it was claimed that's because "President Obama wasn't a sexist, racist, knee jerk kind of guy..Trump is not Presidential material and never will be." That that justifies beating unsuspecting White motorists and destroying private property?

Planet Fitness has produced a campaign featuring its anti-bullying campaign for the purposes of indoctrinating a "judgment free generation". It's one thing to prevent bullying behavior. However, its quite another to condition people to be "judgment free". For such would result in individuals unable to differentiate between right or wrong and unprotected against being taken advantage of.

In a SermonAudio homily, Sean Harris of Berean Baptist Church condemned those whom the extent of their church participation consisted solely of showing up for the service. Maybe he'd prefer they not even do that. Furthermore, how does he know what these folks do the rest of the time? Don't they at least get a few points for Christian character if they don't slap their spouses and go to work or something similarly constructive on a reasonably consistent basis?

In a sermon, it was said that a woman should marry a man to move her out of poverty. Will it be said from the same pulpit that a man should marry a woman to get someone to scrub the toilet or wash laundry?

If deadbeat Europeans burn their own cities over the Trump victory, why should we feel shame about it? Such is the result of their own stupidity.

So why is Steve Bannon's wanting to limit the "Jewish influence" over his children a form of antisemiticism that must be eliminated but we are supposed to open our borders wide open to those advocating the kind of antisemitism that advocates outright violence against a particular group of people?

About the harshest punishment for students from the DC suburbs will face for walking out in protest over the Trump electoral victory will be an excused

absence. Would educators go as lightly if students had bolted out of class to pray around the flagpole, to march in solidarity with prolife activists, or chanting "Build the wall"?

Attending the University of Virginia while being driven into your safe space at the sight of a Jefferson quote is nearly the same thing as attending Liberty University and insisting that the mention of Jerry Falwell sickens you.

s his supporters to stop heckling minorities. Is "60 Minutes" as concerned about the candidate's opponents and detractors destroying property, blocking roadways, and beating unsuspecting citizens on the basis of their electoral decision deduced primarily from the basis of race?

Clothing designer Sophie Theallett, who has designed for Michelle Obama, has announced her refusal to dress Melania Trump primarily for ideological reasons. So shouldn't she be destroyed financially in a way similar to the Christian bakers refusing to bake wedding cakes for gay nuptials?

The cast of the play "Hamilton" chewed out Vice President Elect Mike Pence for being in the audience. Could a Christian baker be allowed to bake the gay cake anyway and tell the couple off as the cake and money are exchanged with there being no legal repercussions?

In responding to the Trump electoral victory, President Obama admonished that we must be cautious of a tribalism that promotes a mentality of Us vs. Them. Does he intend to make similar pronouncements against the Occupy Movement, Black Lives Matter, La Raza, and even his own presidency? Apparently with Trump's electoral victory radical leftists now insist that states' rights and local control are the ways in which America was intended to be governed.

If Californians wanting to secede and urban centers vowing to remain sanctuary cities in defiance of presidential order are to be applauded as expressions of robust localism, shouldn't the rest of America remind its own business as to what one hillbilly mayor from West Virginia posts online about Michelle Obama?

A Maryland school is being commended for allowing

for the selection of a “gender neutral” homecoming court. But shouldn't these pedagogues still be condemned for the continuation of this practice promoting non-egalitarian classism?

Was the establishmentarian media as ever concerned about Van Jones' profession of being an avowed Communist, Anita Dunn's confession of Mao being her favorite political philosopher, and Barack Obama's political career beginning in the living room of convicted terrorist Bill Ayers as they are regarding Steve Bannon's alleged ties to the “alt right”?

Home school activist Swanson denounced as reprobates those not keen on fellowshiping with groups of people. But why are we obligated to attend gatherings where one is going to be bored out of one's mind, where others hardly interacts with you, and where one is reluctant to open one's mouth for fear of it being a religious gathering you will likely be berated with Scripture or if in secular company the outcome could very likely result in a beating or your property destroyed.

Interesting. A homicidal tyrant that has in effect built a wall of security for the purposes of keeping his people imprisoned is praised by typical liberals but a president elect that promised to keep out those having no right to be here is the first place is condemned.

There are two suspected assailants in the attack on an Ohio college campus. Wonder how long until the unapprehended second attacker disappears into the ether and his existence vociferously denied to the point of law enforcement threatening violence against witnesses continuing to insist otherwise?

It was alleged on a Christian talk radio program that those on the Right are often guilty of arguing from the extreme. So does that mean come next October this ministry won't rant and rave that children that Trick or Treat are prone to becoming Satanists or practicing witches?

Elites are unsettled that Donald Trump might have strong armed United Technologies into keeping in the U.S. over 1000 jobs the corporation had intended to transfer to Mexico. How is this anymore disturbing than the courts compelling small scale Christian businesses to provide services for gay weddings against their will or Obama imposing an assortment

of broad mandates upon American enterprises nowhere authorized by Congress or even ordered by the courts?

A pastor remarked that it is humanocentric to be worried about people going to Hell and theocentric to be concerned that God is not receiving the worship that He deserves. Maybe so. But if this was God's primary concern, perhaps He shouldn't have created sentient beings so aware of or motivated by pain and misery.

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On The Five, Greg Gutfeld says most prefer community to calamity. From my experience, each of these is pretty much identical.

If your church is on the verge of financial ruination, isn't it about time to cut back on the foreign missionaries to an extent?

If in a sermon on tithing it is claimed that those that tithed ended up with more money, how is that appreciably different than Osteonian propaganda?

It was said of 100 faith promise giving program pledge forms, a previous year only nine were completed and returned. But if it is emphasized that this campaign is distinct from the Biblically compulsory tithe, who is to say that it wasn't the Holy Spirit that restrained some believers from participation?

Obama in the oration where he brownnosed himself for how the war on terror was conducted during his regime how America was founded so that one could practice one's religion as one saw fit. That is, of course, unless one differs from the prevailing herd mentality regarding homosexual matrimony.

NASA posted "Godspeed, John Glenn." Why shouldn't the official invoking deity in this instance be occupationally terminated like the Jet Propulsion Lab functionary dismissed over confessing a belief in theistic intelligent design? Yes, the modifier "theistic"



is necessary because there is probably some egghead at that facility who believes the Intelligent Designer is an extraterrestrial and the directors of the facility have no problem with that belief.

Isn't Brian Williams about the last mass communicator that should get on his establishmentarian media high horse against "fake news"?

Regarding those outraged over the legitimacy of the Pizzagate scandal. Were they as quick to condemn the rush to judgment regarding nebulous allegations of carnal impropriety leveled against Herman Cain and Donald Trump?

An appellate judge has suggested that the "arms" of the disputed Peace or Victory Cross World War I Memorial in Bladensburg, Maryland could be removed in order to make the edifice constitutionally compliant. So it can, what, look like a giant middle finger or penis thrust into the face of God?

So how is it that ministries once outspoken against Domionism are now celebrating a Kabbalistic notion that Trump is in the messianic bloodline?

A number of rabbis supposedly believe that Trump is in the messianic bloodline. If Christians are obligated to fawn all over such remarks because they were articulated by Jewish religious leaders, does that mean we also ought to lap up their denunciations of Jesus' claims of Messiah since they articulate such hooey as well?

If Jewish occultists hint that Trump might be in the Messianic bloodline, doesn't that actually mean discerning Christian should consider him a candidate for possibly being the Antichrist rather than something to celebrate?

Guess one could compose a parody version of the "Where In The World Is Carmen San Diego" with the words reworked referencing the reportedly missing Clinton Foundation executive Eric Braverman.

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Bill Clinton lamented that Donald Trump knows how to get angry White males to vote for him. As if Hillary doesn't know how to get WOMENNN that want to hack their babies to pieces to vote for her. And did not President Obama know how to get Black people to vote for him that believe the purpose of government is to give them the largest handout available with the least amount of work on their part?

To atone for holding slaves, Georgetown University plans to extend preferential admissions to the descendants of slaves connected to the institution. But isn't this also punishing other potential students having just as little control over whom their ancestors happened to be?

On Christmas Day, I saw a gaggle of buzzards eating a dead squirrel on a sidewalk along a suburban street.

So are Trump's judicial appointments going to be the equivalent of the Council on Foreign Relations or Trilateral Commission types he has appointed to the foreign and defense policy establishments?

## **Trump No More Lewd Than Other Media Degenerates**

Audio has allegedly been “rediscovered” of Trump talking lewd to Howard Stern.

But years ago wasn't the retort from assorted liberals that, if you did not like what the likes of Stern had to say, don't listen and change the channel?

So what is it going to be, leftwing degenerates?

Is it or is it not improper to curtail profane content in the name of public decency?

And if Donald Trump gets so aroused on the set of a soap opera, isn't that proof that such dramas are borderline pornographic to begin with?

It is never proper for a man to touch a woman that does not want to be touched and perhaps even wrong to make comments at her.

But if things are to be so inhibited now that two dudes can't even articulate observations amongst themselves, these woman should not dress like such tramps.

Perhaps the greatest irony of this entire development is that the only thing that makes what Trump did really wrong is the very Judeo-Christian morality that the debased secularist activists have

fanatically endeavored to eliminate as the basis of cultural and sexual relationships.

Because of Trump's questionable remarks, Billy Bush was suspended from The Today Show.

What did he say so out of line?

It couldn't have been much more offensive than Kathy Lee Gifford's borderline alcoholism.

And how is NBC suspending Billy Bush for enthusiastically discussing his preferred modality of sexuality any different than the Christian bakers refusing to bake cakes for gay weddings?

If someone is articulating morally questionable remarks, you do not necessarily have an obligation to stop them.

What someone needs to do now is to modify the meme featuring that Bahai actor from “The Office” admitting you don't pay taxes in order to finance an assortment of civic minded programs but rather to merely avoid prison.

It should read, “You don't refrain from lewd comments out of respect for women but rather for fear of losing your job.”

## **Southern Baptist Functionary Harder On Trump Than Christian Pedophile Scandal**

In a *Washington Post* column, Southern Baptist functionary Albert Mohler reflected upon the moral quandary of Evangelical electoral support for Donald Trump.

Interesting how he did not publish a similar column in the Washington Post critical of the Evangelical support remaining behind C.J. Mahaney despite the denomination he headed not only falling into a child sex abuse scandal but also in light of the

claims that Mahaney's former congregation Covenant Life Church was administered along the lines of a quasi-cultic philosophy.

Mohler's support for Mahaney went far beyond holding one's nose and voting for the lesser of two evils at a recent conference to a sickening display of ecclesiastical brown-nosing where Mohler assured Mahaney that the disgraced minister was there with the support of a thousand of his closest friends.

## **Swanky Pastor Denigrates Bivocational Ministers**

In a podcast regarding sermon preparation, Sean Harris of Berean Baptist Church said that the bivocational pastor is doing his congregation a disservice with two occupations competing for his attention.

Unlike Berean Baptist Church, not every congregation is so rich that they can surround their church building with a perimeter of flags despite

uploading numerous homilies to SermonAudio insinuating that it is an act of idolatry to have a flag in the church or even an occasional worship service incorporating patriotic elements into the liturgy.

Regarding the denigration of bivocationalism, it's interesting how some ministers seem to now exist on a level surpassing Peter, Paul, and apparently even Jesus.

## **Was Trump Support Based On Principle Or Pragmatism?**

In a homily posted at SermonAudio against the evils of pragmatism, it was insisted that certain Americans are drawn to Trump because they are angry about not getting what they want.

However, the matter goes deeper than an Obama voter demanding their free smartphone or a Sanders partisan rampaging for free college.

The average Trump supporter is dismayed by a litany of elected officials repeatedly putting the nation's enemies ahead of our own particular wellbeing.

As evidence, the pastor cited Trump's suggestion to ban the entrance of Muslims into the United States.

Admittedly, such a proposal might have been too broad in its original enunciation.

However, where is it elaborated in the Constitution that non-citizens are entitled to admission if they have not met certain predetermined criteria?

Should mass numbers of have Germans been allowed entrance without considerable certainty as to where their loyalties were during World War II?

## **Pundit Fails To Consider First Amendment Implications Of Muslim Surveillance**

In an address at Ocean City Tabernacle, columnist Cal Thomas remarked that Muslims in their private schools should not be allowed to teach hatred of Jews and Christians.

The American people ought to know what the adherents of the so-called religion of peace believe and are up to.

However, does Thomas really want government

bureaucrats to determine and decree what private educators may or may not teach in terms of doctrine and ideology?

For what is to prevent such technocrats from declaring that Jesus is the only way or the superiority of heterosexual marriage as the ideal family arrangement in which to raise children as hateful beyond acceptability?

## **Church Turned Into Idol In Sermon Against Idolatry**

A pastor remarked that, in order to destroy the idol of materialism, the Christian must become a giver.

Wonder if the pastor would sing the same tune if the philanthropy was directed towards any worthwhile charitable effort but the one he administers or others in his theological or ideological orbit.

In a sermon against idolatry, a pastor said that, during the holiday season, the congregation was being provided with a list of organizations to which they should consider giving in the attempt to squelch the influence of materialism over their lives.

The catch was that this eleemosynary was not to come their usual tithe or offering. In other words, the minister was insistent that he still wanted his usual cut of the usual proceeds.

In a sermon, Pastor Sean Harris of Berean Baptist Church remarked in reference to John D. Rockefeller that anyone that gave away 60% of their income couldn't be an idolater.

I cannot necessarily speak to the state of John D. Rockefeller's soul. However, the pastor's conclusion doesn't necessarily fly.

For example, having all that one could desire in

terms of possessions, often those of immense wealth fund an assortment of organizations for the purposes of advancing their own reputations or to remake society in compliance with their particular image.

Likewise, what about Communist revolutionaries that might forgo the accumulation of personnel possession for their particular cause?

They might not wallow in luxury, but they are no less materialistic as the most debauched hedonist.

After all, the philosophy underlying Communism is itself called dialectical materialism.

A pastor warned that your spouse or your children can become an idol in that an idol is anything that can compete with your affection for God.

If a pastor fails to list the organized church among that warming, there is the likelihood that the pastor has made an idol of formalized religion. A pastor complained that, for every \$100, the average Christian gives only \$2.50. The remark must no doubt mean into the offering plate.

But if we are going to operate under the assumption that the family is the first and foremost charity, isn't every dollar a parent spends to take care of a child in essence a dollar spent on charity?

And isn't the amount increased substantially if the Christian has their offspring in a Christian school as they have been admonished to by a wide variety of reputable teachers and ministries?

And to those that might not have any children, it has been suggested that creation care itself qualifies as a form of ministry. As such, wouldn't every dollar one spends on pet food contribute to the care of God's creatures?

It might be responded but children and pets are entities from which we derive enjoyment. Tread carefully, dear pastor. For the ultimate outcome of that line of argumentation would conclude that those attending your congregation should instead send their

offering dollar to the congregation across town or down the street that they do not attend.

In a sermon on idolatry, Pastor Sean Harris of Berean Baptist Church used the illustration of a little girl with three dolls in her arms that would still want additional dolls in her embrace if she could get her arms around them.

Given the photo of his church facility on SermonAudio, are that many flagpoles at one church the most prudent use of tithe dollars especially since the pastoral staff is on the record in numerous uploaded podcasts expressing just what little regard they have (actually bordering on spiritual contempt) for Old Glory?

### **John The Baptist Invoked As Sermonic Illustration To Impose Personal Opinion**

Isn't it a bit of a stretch to invoke the passage regarding the conception of John the Baptist to condemn the ailing elderly that aren't able to get to church as often as they used to?

The text implies that God intervened in regards to the withered reproductive tracts of Zacharias and Elizabeth.

So unless God intervenes similarly in regards to dimmed eyesight and crippled legs, isn't He the one to be held responsible regarding this attendance issue?

The pastor insisted that, if an elderly individual can make it to the doctors or the supermarket, they

can make it to church. One is reminded of the line from the movie *Dodgeball*, "If you can dodge a wrench, you can dodge a ball."

But doesn't such a imperative analogy postulate a weak God bordering on the heretical?

The decrepit of advanced chronology are forced to go to the doctor's or the grocery store because such services are often physicalized in a singular location.

But doesn't the God of the Christian go out of His way to make it known that He is not confined by a structure built by the hands of man no matter how ornate or well intended such dedicated edifices might happen to be?

### **Pastor Equates Science With Occult Knowledge**

In a sermon against Halloween, a pastor claimed that there are certain things that man was not meant to know.

As an example, the pastor provided the issue of whether or not there is life on Mars.

The minister insisted that all that he needed to know is that God created Mars.

There is a difference between knowledge that is considered occultic and that which is considered the

physically scientific.

The average human being is no more able to directly examine the workings of their respective innards as they are the minutiae of the Martian sands.

If the pastor's mindset is to be applied to medical care, is there appreciable difference between the implications of this particular Baptist's worldview and that of the rigorous adherent of the Christian Science sect?

### **The Best Way To Avoid Bible Study Disputes Is Not To Attend Non-Essential Bible Studies**

It was asked in a podcast what do you do if in a Bible study group you have one set of parents whose children are allowed to Trick or Treat and a set of parents whose children are not allowed to do so. The solution is simple.

Perhaps one ought not to attend these Bible studies nowhere mandated in Scripture.

Secondly, if you still have a desire to attend, perhaps it

is best not to tell the others in attendance what your family does in its free time and for you not to ask questions of others in attendance if the response could possibly cause you to come unhinged.

Furthermore, shouldn't people be so tired at the end of the day that they don't need to be going to all of these group functions if they have already found a mate and procreated?

## **Fox News Pundit No More Outlandish Than Anti-Flag Church Surrounded By Flag**

In a pastoral round table discussion posted on SermonAudio, one of the multiple clergy on staff at Berean Baptist Church remarked that he was not all that impressed with pundit Todd Starnes because the frequent Fox News contributor was often “over the top”.

How is that different than numerous pronouncements broadcast by this particular church?

For example, in the cover photo posted to the church's SermonAudio profile, the church building is

surrounded by a perimeter of flags like the Washington Monument.

Yet the church administrators have uploaded multiple podcasts to SermonAudio insisting that flags in the church and Fourth of July services are a form of idolatry.

Isn't this akin to preaching a sermon against carnality while have a cage or pole dancer on either side of the pulpit?

## **European Stupidity Eventually Penetrates Minds Of Leftwing Americans**

On a non-disclosed social network in response to my column regarding opposition to Christmas in Europe on the part of radical multiculturalists and fanatic Islamists, it was posted, “Why should I care what happens in Sweden?”

Firstly, it was my column.

As such, MY column is a reflection of what I care about.

You, dear reader, have been extended the privilege of the opportunity to ponder what has caught the attention of one of the foremost minds of the twenty-first century.

But more importantly, those that categorize

themselves as secularist European social democrats are idolized by progressivist American liberals.

As such, what transpires there will eventually end up transpiring here.

Just because Donald Trump was elected president that does not mean this sort of politically incorrect nonsense has ceased for evermore.

At best, America was only granted a brief reprieve during which these threats to faith and freedom will grow even more dangerous as numerous patriotic Americans will obviously be lured into a false sense of quiescence.

## **Hollywood Hypocrites Wallow In Luxuries They Would Deny Other Americans**

On an episode of “Jay Leno's Garage”, Vice President Joe Biden and Colin Powell made an appearance to drag race their Corvettes.

Powell admitted that this was his third Corvette in eight years.

I myself have never owned a new vehicle and the used one I purchased in 1999 functions just fine.

Yet these are the same establishmentarian globalists that condemn those skeptical of climate change policy propaganda decreeing that private vehicular ownership ought to be discouraged for everyday needs to say nothing of recreational drag racing or as ostentatious replacements for a diminished masculinity.

## **Website Unsettled Over Anti-Catholic Prejudice Has Little Problem Mocking Protestants**

In light of slurs against Catholics on the part of Clinton campaign functionaries, the Federalist is urging Americans of conscience to adopt the phrase “We are all Catholics now” as a sign of solidarity.

Interesting how little is being said how those email exchanges were less than complimentary regarding Evangelicals as well.

It must be remembered that this very same conservative website not long ago posted a headline, even though done in the name of humor, referring to Protestants as “heretic scum”.

Maybe Podesta found his remarks against Catholics to be similarly mirthful and said in jest.

## Subversives Foreign & Domestic Attempt To Undermine Christmas

Here in the hypersensitive twenty-first century, one of the unique holiday traditions of this era is to see who can toss the biggest hissy fit in the attempt to frighten the less combative throngs into altering their very way of life and culture in order to alleviate the possibility of conflict.

One hundred activists have been arrested in Rotterdam for demonstrating in the streets against a fictitious character named "Black Pete".

For those having no idea who that is, in Scandinavian folklore Black Pete is the sidekick of Santa Claus. But instead of distributing toys and treats, Black Pete dispenses punishment in the form of the dreaded lumps of coal in the stocking.

Tolerancemongers are tossing their typical tizzy because Black Pete is depicted with a blackened face, red lips, and what is perceived as an Afro wig.

One theory holds this is because Pete is believed to be a Spanish Moor while others insist it is simply because he is covered in soot as a result in trafficking in hydrocarbon residue.

It is claimed such a depiction is racist.

Before this subversive impulse dissipates, these radicals bent on tearing down centuries of Western tradition (as Black Pete's supporters insist that the character is part of their cultural heritage as an integral component of their Christmas tradition) will condemn the Santa motif in its entirety for imposing the standards of the chronologically advanced upon the recently nascent.

After all, who are the bourgeoisie to impede the vanguard destined to bring change and transformation through violent upheaval?

If defenders of the Western way of life do not say enough is enough, soon it will be more than those expressions of culture formulated in less socially aware times on the line.

For example, elsewhere in Western Europe at a Woolworth's store in Germany, Christian decorations were removed just days after they were put up.

The reason given was that the retail establishment was now a "Muslim store".

Die hard freemarketeers of the sort that think that it is a good thing when pewee athletic coaches berate the kids and even smack them around a little will likely respond that a merchant should be allowed to sell whatever the business desires. That is of course unless the products in question that an establishment

doesn't want to sell happen to be birth control related and then suddenly the concept of proprietary discretion is tossed into the conceptual remainder pile.

But do not customers have the right to demand that assorted enterprises provide desired goods and services?

If the heathen can pour across the frontiers of the West demanding under threats of and actually committed acts of violence demanding that these besieged populations alter a variety of longstanding norms and practices, the civilized peoples of the Earth are well within their own rights to withhold financial patronage of such non-responsive merchants.

If Woolworth's fails to comply, perhaps that name in Europe will become like it is across large swaths of North America as a defunct retailer relegated to the proverbial annals of business history and remembered little more by a quickly depleting pool of shoppers.

It should be interesting to see if this alliance between multiculturalists and free market purists will remain united and intact regarding a development in Saudi Arabia.

It was announced there that the private schools for internationals residing within that particular Islamic kingdom would be forbidden from celebrating Christmas.

The prohibition even forbade schools from even altering examination dates in the attempt to give students a bit of a surreptitious break.

Will there be similar outcry from the voices insisting that celebrations in primarily Christian and Caucasians lands must be altered for the purposes of establishing the ballyhooed safe spaces for minorities and that whatever choices these protected demographics might make within their own COMMUNITIES must be affirmed in a celebratory fashion by the broader society?

The Constitution warns that enemies can be both foreign and domestic.

As such, one of the most pernicious of threats is this paradoxical situation where many of diversity's most enthusiastic acolytes demand that we as Americans eliminate the cultural expressions of the faith that has guided the nation throughout much of its history while looking favorably upon the very creed whose most fanatic practitioners have few qualms about physically mutilating those with whom they disagree.

## **Fanatic Homeschooler Flies Into Tirade Against The AltRight**

In response to the AltRight, homeschool activist Kevin Swanson insisted that the Bible allows for the immigrant or stranger to enter the land.

If we are going to be that hardcore Old Testament, don't these Old Testament passages about the stranger abiding in the land also admonish the stranger to abide by the laws and customs determined by the host country and to an extent renouncing the ways of their homeland.

In his criticism of the AltRight, Kevin Swanson insisted it is not a sin for immigrants to attempt to preserve their cultural identity when they come to live in the United States.

Then why did the homeschool activist dedicate the podcast in which this sentiment was expressed to propagating the notion that it is a sin for America as its own distinctive culture to take steps in order to do so?

In his condemnation of the so-called AltRight, home school activist Keven Swanson insisted that

sin, not immigration or cultural preservation, is the root cause of the nation's problems.

Technically so.

But that is the Sunday school answer.

If Swanson really holds to Reformed theology, he ought to admit that it is God's plan for different people to tackle the manifestation of such in different social spheres or cultural arenas.

Perhaps Swanson ought to be criticized for focusing a significant percentage of his efforts towards education.

It must be admitted that there are some in the AltRight that probably take the issues that they emphasize too far.

However, this subset of Conservatism has only gained a degree of notoriety because of the many religious leaders that downplay the concerns of everyday Americans (usually Caucasian) while overlooking ethno-supremacist activism when such manifests itself among assorted minorities.

## **Congregation Pitches Tent Towards Gomorrah Instead Of Heavenly Jerusalem**

Calvary Baptist Church in Washington DC has selected a "married" lesbian couple to co-pastor the congregation.

Yet this is not the first time this particular church has deliberately violated with enthusiastic forethought what has traditionally been categorized as the theology of the body..

In 2014, the congregation appointed an interim pastor that was transgender, apparently to lead the church from bad to worse.

In defense of surrendering the congregation's pulpit to a transgendered pastor, the chair of the Calvary Baptist personnel committee told the Associate Baptist Press, "Quite simply, this is who we --- Calvary Baptist Church, specifically, and Christians more generally --- are called to be a place that reflects God's love and recognizes, affirms, and nurtures God's call in each of our lives."

By such a statement, the reader is to assume that whatever warped inclinations an individual might feel are to be understood as the divine calling in our lives.

So if a pastor expressed a desire to and actually touched buxom teen girls inappropriately, does that mean that a church is obligated to celebrate such a

ministerial candidate by granting the individual a position of leadership?

The advocates of progressivism will respond but the pedophile psychologically damages the underaged minor.

But what do you think "Pastor" Robinson is doing to his own children since he did not spring his desire to live in this manner on anyone until after becoming a father?

For now, it seems his wife is standing by him.

But will she continue to do so once his distinctively male appendage is hacked off like a withered garden weed?

What those falling over the edge of rank apostasy and the vilest manifestations of paganism really mean when they invoke terms like "love", "affirmation" and "nurturing" is that they will only support those plunging along with them into the depths of libertinism and licentiousness.

For would this sort of "church" stand by someone that admitted to uttering the "N-word" under their breath some thirty years ago?

Better yet, as a more revealing test of their sincerity, perhaps this congregation should welcome into its pulpit a fire and brimstone pastor that would expose these kinds of sheol-spawned delusions for what they really are.

## **Will Nanny State Decree How Many Christmas Presents Constitutes Too Many?**

Outrage has erupted over a British mother that spent \$1800 on Christmas presents for her three children.

She has been accused of spoiling her offspring and even abusing them.

Busybodies in both the social and mainstream media have decreed that she should instead teach her children about the true meaning of Christmas by redirecting the gifts towards charity.

Perhaps the amount spent is a bit excessive.

But is it PROPER (to invoke a term the British like to articulate) to invoke the specter of abuse?

For in overly regulated quasi-police states such as the United Kingdom, the phrase “abuse” usually serves as the bureaucratic pretext to justify intervening in a home for the purposes of subjecting a family to a variety of investigative and surveillance techniques.

Have the British become so totalitarian as to produce actuarial tables detailing what number of presents are allowed before anti-social tendencies begin to set in?

And if it is unacceptable for a parent to spend \$1800 at Christmas, why is it acceptable for the Queen to have so many corgis or Prince Charles to have an even greater number of sports cars despite his insistence that he is an environmentalist?

Gifts piled high probably aren't the meaning of Christmas.

But neither is the Pavlovian reflex endemic throughout Northern European social democracies that what the nanny state decrees to be excess wealth should be confiscated and bestowed upon the chronically destitute with no strings attached.

It has been claimed that the extravagance \$1800 can accumulate will spoil these children.

But what about those making their livelihoods from institutionalized penury demanding increasingly sophisticated levels of luxury instead of expressing a modicum of gratitude for what private or public generosity they have been extended?

Are BBC “news readers” interviewing academics or policy analysts warning of the dangers that might take place as result of too many unearned entitled programs?

Anyone doubting the legitimacy of such a concern or observation only needs to be reminded of the British jihadist born of immigrant parents that not only murdered a member of that nation's armed forces in a ditch alongside the road but also proudly uploaded a video glamorizing the shocking atrocity.

Perhaps that is the subversive element that this concern regarding the consequences of incorrectly reared youth ought to be focused.

## **Shouldn't White Ministers Outraged Over Racial Disparities Surrender Their Microphones To Minorities?**

On an episode of “Stand For The Truth” addressing racial issues, broadcaster Mike Lemay lamented how often the response on the part of Conservatives and certain Christians is to point out that things have improved considerably over time.

Instead, succumbing to the intellectual contaminate of liberal White guilt, he suggests that we are to join the chorus of how things still need to improve.

Perhaps if he fails or refuses to realize that this response on the part of Conservatives is to prevent additional government intervention and wealth redistribution, perhaps what he himself has worked to accumulate will be among the first assets seized.

Better yet, if he feels Holy Ghost conviction regarding these matters, why doesn't he surrender his microphone to a minority and instead take up manual day labor as a way to do penance?

## **Cracking Down At Border No Different Than Cracking Down On Homeless**

DC Mayor Muriel Bowser lamenting the strain caused by increasing numbers of indigents streaming into the city because of its generous social welfare benefits wants to tighten the residency requirements that must be met before shelter is offered.

So how is such a proposal appreciably different

than Trump wanting to toughen border security for assorted reasons?

And if bleeding heart liberals want to maintain the distinction, why are foreigners more deserving of American assistance than actual Americans?



## Baptist Functionary Sides Against Common Christians In Christmas War

In “The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe” by C.S. Lewis, one of the deprivations the White Witch imposed upon Narnia was that, under her rule, it was always winter but never Christmas. Through this literary device, Lewis was able to emphasize how the profound truths of existence are often reflected and even pointed to by the simplest pleasures of life.

It is ashame Southern Baptist cultural functionary Russell Moore has failed to grasp this particular axiom. In what amounts to a column posted at his website titled “Is There A 'War' On Christmas?” (the word “War” placed in quotations to no doubt undermine the seriousness of this concern), this particular theologian astutely analyzes and exegetes the seriousness of Christmas as the celebration of God incarnating in human form and how the flippancy in which that mystery is often approached is itself a symptom of the degree to which Western civilization has strayed from the straight and narrow.

However, Dr. Moore doesn't seem to grasp that these incidental slights that Moore seems to dismiss also point to the degree to which the culture has been deChristianized. For example, Moore writes, “But the huffing and puffing that we tend to do when marketers don't get our Christian commitments is, I think, a little bit off base.” Moore goes on to conclude, “...when we think about this war on Christmas, we shouldn't turn this into a fight for our right to party...And we need to remember that the darkness isn't overcome by sarcasm, or personal offense, or retaliatory insults, or boycotts of Wal-Mart or whatever it is.”

As part of his public persona, Russell Moore has positioned or branded himself as a minister sensitive to the concerns of particular favored aggrieved constituencies. For example, Dr. Moore serves as a token Anglo on the National Hispanic Christian Leadership Conference and has released public statements that just about blame White people for the upheaval perpetrated during Black Lives Matter protests rather than the rampaging activists themselves.

These days linguistic tensions are so taunt with many of those in the majoritarian demographic walking around on egg shells for fear of a misconstrued verbal inflection resulting in a lost job or even threats of physical retaliation. As an historical reference one only need recall the outcry

over Ross Perot's articulation of the phrase “You people”.

Therefore, if Christians in general and Evangelicals in particular see those in positions of leadership that don't mind instructing we mere dimwits of the congregation how we are to be in submission to them and to follow their example getting worked up into a froth over things considerable removed from the average American's daily purview of concern, why shouldn't it be expected for people to react vocally for the small yet existentially substantial things that they actually care about. For example, if we are expected to get worked up over someone manhandled by the police that deliberately decided to disobey la enforcement's perfectly justifiable instructions, shouldn't professional religionists such as Dr. Moore ought to express a little more sympathy for the common Christian feeling insulted that the holiday displays at the local mall or “big box retailer” don't seem sufficiently Christmasy?

Dr. Moore further observes, “...I think we need to keep in mind most of these issues that we take offense at are done by corporations ...[that] are trying to sell products. They are really not trying to offend constituencies...That's not good economics at all for anybody.”

Would Rev. Moore as dismissively let the actions of government he found questionable slide by without comment? After all, one of the purposes of bureaucracy (which it somehow never seems to achieve by the way) is to as efficiently as possible weigh, process, and prioritize the interests of the numerous factions that constitute an incomprehensibly complex technologically advanced society.

For example, if the average believer is to be persuaded that merchants harbor no nefarious intent by instructing that the greeting “Happy Holidays” be articulated rather than “Merry Christmas”, why shouldn't we believe that the misunderstanding is as simple in regards to something that the professional religionists might care about such as the effort to eliminate the tax exemption of the clergy housing allowance? It might, after all, merely be an attempt to raise revenue rather than as part of an orchestrated conspiracy to shackle ministers by undermining their freedom of religious expression to speak out on

issues of moral importance (though it is never explained how authors and journalists are not similarly hindered by not being extended the same protection in the tax code).

Moore further observes, "...many, especially in the culture-making ...sectors in American life, see Christmas kind of in the same way that most Americans see Hanukkah. One knows about [it]... [But] They don't know the background story." As such, Moore suggests that, instead of getting angry, we ought to instead teach those around us about the miracle of the incarnation and the blood atonement.

Always a good idea. But if these things aren't being taught, whose fault is that?

Perhaps the average pewfiller zooms in on retail establishments that blatantly thumb their noses at what Dr. Moore seems to dismiss as holiday trivialities rather than those that might appropriate the veneer of the devotional in pursuit of more trivial ends because deep down these believers have might have an inclination that something is askew but cannot hone in on something more specific. Many times they have not been taught much better than their secular non-churchgoing counterparts.

For example, as someone on the Southern Baptist payroll, does Russell Moore spend much time emphasizing and teaching what C.S. Lewis categorized as "Mere Christianity"? For it seems for much of the past year or so the theologian has spent an inordinate amount of time bashing Christians that got behind the Trump candidacy because, despite his faults, Trump was about the only presidential contender willing to admit that drastic action needed to be taken at the boarder.

Some might respond that it is not the place of a pastor or minister to co-opt the sanctified solemnity of the pulpit or even the clerical collar to wallow in the banalities of political affairs. However, that has not prevented Russell Moore and those of a similar mindset infiltrating the Southern Baptist Convention from speaking out on issues regarding immigration

and related minority concerns.

These exegetical activists insist Scripture is inherently pro-immigrant as evidenced by the protections extended to the strangers dwelling in the midst of Israel. Yet seldom do these homilists point out that these outsiders were also compelled to live in respect of Israel's culture and the importance both the Old and New Testaments place upon abiding by the duly constituted laws of the nation's in which one happens to reside.

Dear reader, don't fall for the delusion that what Russell Moore and allied malcontents are simply calling for is the humane treatment of those that have no right or permission to be here as they are escorted from the premises of the United States as part of the deportation process. What they are in fact calling for is the elevation of deadbeats and agitators to a place of superiority over the average taxpaying pewfillers and citizens.

For among a list of ultimatums issued by Evangelical progressives posted on the Huffington Post was one demanding that White Christians DEFER to their counterparts of color. Will there be similar pleas from the authors published by that font of leftwing propaganda for protesters to DEFER to the instructions articulated by law enforcement during roadside encounters or to the rulings handed down by the judicial system? So much for assessing individual by the content of their character rather than by the color of their skin.

Given the nature of the public pronouncements that he has become increasingly known for, it would be easy to assume that Russell Moore is transitioning from being a minster of the Gospel to something more of a COMMUNITY organizer not all that different than Barack Obama in his early days. Perhaps the best thing any Christian might do next holiday season is to direct their charitable dollars towards institutions other than those affiliated with Moore's wing of the Southern Baptist Convention.

## **A Review Of *A Survey Of The New Testament* By Robert Gundry**

As God's revelation to mankind, the Bible is complete in itself and capable of equipping the believer for every good work. Thus, with it alone, the Christian has everything that is necessary to learn the essentials of salvation and the wisdom necessary to sail the turbulent seas of life. Yet, unlike many other theological and religious texts, the Bible presents numerous universal truths by addressing concrete historical situations rather than by presenting a set of detached philosophical postulates.

As such, an understanding of the backdrop against which certain Biblical texts were written can provide the believer with a deeper appreciation of and greater insight into the Word of God. That said, to the average believer, that has not already acquired an extensive background knowledge of the Ancient Near East, such a task can seem quite daunting. Fortunately, *A Survey Of The New Testament* by Robert Gundry makes such a goal much more manageable.

*A Survey Of The New Testament* accomplishes this in part by grouping various New Testament books together in relation to when they were written or by thematic topic. For example, Galatians, I Thessalonians and II Thessalonians are classified together as the early epistles of Paul; I Corinthians, II Corinthians, and Romans are categorized as the Major Epistles of Paul. Philemon, Colossians, Ephesians, Philippians, I Timothy, II Timothy, and Titus are lumped together as the Pastoral Epistles of Paul because they were written specifically for young pastors (409). The books of James, I Peter, II Peter, I John, II John, III John and Jude are classified as Catholic or General Epistles because these texts were not targeted towards a specific locality. Hebrews and Revelation are each assigned their own individual chapters.

From this system of classification, Gundry proceeds to analyze each of these New Testament books. He accomplishes this by first outlining the major themes of the book under consideration for quick reference and then proceeds to a more in depth analysis of the text under consideration. For example, in the outline for I Corinthians, the student will see that marriage is discussed in I Corinthians 7:1-40 (361). Flipping ahead a few pages, the reader will find, thanks to the convenient subsection headings, where Gundry provides a more detailed

examination into the Biblical teaching prohibiting divorce on the part of believers married to unbelievers and where he delves in an evenhanded manner into the debate whether the Christian abandoned by an unbelieving spouse is permitted to remarry.

Though Gundry does highlight the wisdom found in the pages of the New Testament epistles most are accustomed to discussing in Sunday school, his "Survey Of The New Testament" is no mere devotional and will keep the attention of those seeking deeper academic understanding of the sacred documents. For example, in his examination of the Book of Galatians, Gundry goes into considerable detail as to whether the epistle was addressed towards either North or South Galatia.

Such an academic conjecture has bearing upon as to when the book was written. Gundry points out that, if the text was addressed to the area of Northern Galatia which Paul did not visit until his second missionary journey, this means the epistle was not written until after the Jerusalem Council detailed in Acts 15. If the epistle was addressed towards Southern Galatia, then it is believed to have been written after Paul's first missionary journey and thus prior to the Jerusalem Church Council (346).

If one is not particularly inspired by such academic technicalities, one might find the chapters regarding the cultural settings of the New Testament world much more interesting. One may even find considerable similarity with our own era.

Religiously and philosophically, Gundry describes a world of considerable variation. Permeating the non-Jewish population of the Mediterranean was the official state religion of Rome combining Greco-Roman mythology along with emperor worship to which the population was expected to grant tacit consent.

However, it must be pointed out to the reader that this belief served more as a backdrop rather than the sum total of religious expression. For it is from the assorted esoteric sects and various philosophies that many drew inspiration and centered their lives around.

It is at this point where Gundry lists some of the various philosophies popular at that time that the reader can see similarities with those prevalent in our own era. For example, Epicureans taught pleasure as

the chief end of life, Stoicism taught dutiful acceptance of one's fate, and the skeptics are described as relativists who abandoned belief in the absolute. As the Apostle to the Gentiles, Paul would have confronted these philosophies on a regular basis as exemplified by his encounter on Mars Hill in Acts 20.

In light of the popularity of works such as *The Da Vinci Code* and *The Gospel Of Judas*, it can be easy for the faith of the Christian to be shaken by those claiming to have attained higher levels of academic expertise. Written from a solidly Evangelical perspective, "A Survey Of The New Testament" by Robert Gundry is a trustworthy defense against these pervasive heresies that have stalked the Church from its earliest days.

It is often assumed that Christianity appropriated

the ideas of the immortality of the soul, resurrection of the dead, and ceremonial washing such as baptism from the so-called mystery religions. However, Gundry points out, "On the other hand, not until the second, third, and fourth centuries of the Christian era do we get detailed information concerning the beliefs held by the devotees of the mysteries...Where their later beliefs look slightly similar to Christian beliefs, the direction of borrowing may have gone from Christianity to the mystery religions rather than vice versa (58)."

It has been said that the Scriptures are simple enough for a child to understand yet deep enough for a theologian to drown in. A Survey Of The New Testament by Robert Gundry will serve as a sufficient life preserver as the believer heads out into doctrinally deep waters.

## Hit & Run Commentary

Leonardo DiCaprio in his propaganda piece broadcast by National Geographic admitted that he has learned what he has about the environment by traveling around the globe. One of his expeditions probably consumes more fossil fuels than the entire life time of commutes by the average American.

Regarding the "Bombshells" restaurant chain, will those questioning the propriety of dressing skanky broads in skimpy camo be accused of being anti-military or unpatriotic?

Regarding the Rockette making a fuss about the group performing at the Trump inauguration. One does not turn to them for political analysis. One merely watches them to see shapely legs tossed into the air. The ones refusing to dance as ordered should face repercussions similar to the Christian bakers refusing to prepare cakes for gay weddings.

On the day of Kwanza celebrating cooperative economics, instead of receiving a gift, do observers of the sham holiday have something they treasure confiscated and redistributed to someone that did not labor to acquire the disputed item?

It was said in a sermon that you should not consider the individual that delivers a sermon but rather the content of the sermon. True to a certain extent. However, you ought to consider if a particular sermon topic is being delivered by a particular type

of individual in order to manipulate those within earshot of these homiletical formulations. For example, sometimes those in positions of spiritual authority if they treat those under their care poorly often overemphasize submission and deference to leaders in their vocalized admonitions.

If one is going to hold to the position that it is sinful to cancel church Christmas morning so parishioners can instead celebrate with family, isn't it just as wrong to cancel evening services New Year's Day for the same reason?

Senator Chuck Schummer said America cannot afford a Twitter presidency. It has been said that the most dangerous thing to do in Washington is to get between Senator Schummer and a TV camera. That is a reference to the numerous interviews granted by this media junkie of a legislator. So how is government by sound bite appreciably better than government by status update?

A Sermon Audio pastor in a threatening tone warned that, if you don't pray, you won't know peace. The clergy then look dumb founded as to why the average Christian does not view prayer as the opportunity to share concerns with a loving parent but rather a frightening transaction with a mafia gangster or a revenue bureaucrat (these days there really isn't that much of a difference) to get done and over with in the hopes of avoiding overwhelming harm to life and

limb.

At the Golden Globe Awards, Meryl Streep about had a breakdown warning that the kind of bullying that Donald Trump has a tendency to wallow in has a way of filtering down to influence nearly everyone in a bad way. Interesting, though, how media elites insist the violence and especially the promiscuous sex depicted by Hollywood doesn't seem to negatively impact the culture however.

Too bad most of Hollywood is not as interested in exposing the actual abuses of Scientology as these elites are the poor manners of Donald Trump.

An article posted at the Huffington Post is titled "Self-publishing: An Insult To The Written Word". One could respond the the Huffington Post is pretty much the same thing when it comes to journalism and news analysis.

A number of performers have allegedly turned down invitations to perform at the Trump Inauguration. In response, Marie Osmond has gone on the record to suggest that it is actually wrong to turn down such a request. The proper response lies somewhere in between. Trump is a president, not royalty and we (at least not yet) not his subjects. An invitation to perform at an inauguration is not a jury duty summons. A free person should not feel forced to attend this event against their will.

Tom Selleck now doing reverse mortgage commercials. People no longer falling for similar swill being peddled by Fonzi that Magnum P.I. Had to be brought in in order to dupe viewers?

If Trump's proposal to build the border wall is to be condemned, why is the Great Wall of China heralded as one of the world's historical treasures? Why is China to be celebrated for taking steps to safeguard its culture and territorial integrity but the United States denied similar protections. This must be among the only instances where the multiculturalists don't kowtow to "Asian wisdom".

By not allowing Rep. John Lewis to walk all over him unchallenged, shouldn't Donald Trump be celebrated for upholding the principle that Black people are full members of the human family that should be treated with no more deference than should be extended any other smartmouth?

Rep. John Lewis has announced that he refuses to accept the legitimacy of the Trump presidency because of alleged Russian meddling in the election. Was he as vociferous regarding the likely Soviet infiltration of the many civil rights organizations Lewis was no doubt allied with during his rise to prominence?

So is Juan Williams not drug addict enough to retain the token leftist agitator's seat on Fox News' "The Five"? Despite his errors in ideology and policy errors, doubt Williams is a pill-popping boozier. Would he be on the show if the other hosts had to help him along the way they are propping up Beckel?

In his good riddance oration, President Obama reiterated that he rejects discrimination against Muslims. It's those pesky Christians that actually live by Biblical values that he has no qualms about infringing upon the rights of.

It was said on a Christian podcast that marriage is not about love or about having needs met. Since commitment is a choice that one is not obligated to enter into, shouldn't professional religionists keep their mouths shut if certain people decide such commitments are not for them?

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In a discussion on Issues Etc about the unrealistic expectations of marriage, it was said not to expect it to make you happy. If not, then what's really the point?

Chuck Norris is featured in a United Healthcare commercial. Wonder if he had to go through as much rigmarole to receive compensation for this appearance as a customer of that corporation trying to be reimbursed on a claim for a pair of eye glasses.

The only thing that we should feel bad about regarding the protester that set himself on fire in front of the Trump hotel in Washington, DC is that this deadbeat's medical expenses will probably be picked up by taxpayers.

Fascinating how the skanks the proudest about birthing bastards into the world insistent about not needing a man often have the longest baby registry lists demanding what people are to give them in terms of infant care items. If one is going to wail what a strong WOMANNNN they are, perhaps they ought to by their own junk. If you are in such a position and want a “hands free breast pump”, perhaps you are a little late in your breasts being hands free.

The gay pride student group at Georgetown

University plans to provide stuffed animals and therapeutic coloring books in an attempt to prevent a post-inaugural campus meltdown. Shouldn't a gay pride group be as much a part of the Georgetown student body as a Jack Chick appreciation society.

The propagandists that will no doubt be outraged at the audible bristle in the crowd in response to Schumer's inaugural remarks against political rancor will likely say nothing of the vandalism taking place elsewhere in DC against private property in opposition to the peaceful transfer of power.

### **No Grooming Exemptions For Sikh Officers**

Provocatively instructive.

Sikhs claim their version of God demands of them a warrior ethic requiring them to carry a ceremonial sidearm and to grow beards.

Apparently New York City is now so smitten with them that entire regulations are to be rewritten to accommodate members of the sect as the ideal police officers.

White Southerners espousing a very similar ethos from a Conservative Christian perspective even to the point of sporting beards would probably not only be denied a position in the New York City police department but are in fact the very component of the American cultural tapestry that the kinds of elites running NYC endeavor their entire careers to eliminate in part through nearly constant ridicule.

### **Ministries Deserve To Be Treated No Better Than Individuals**

On an episode of “Standing For The Truth”, Dave Wager of the ministry Silver Birch Ranch (who often seems to come on the program for the purposes of guilt tripping listeners into donating free labor for the upkeep of his rural compound) said we deserve nothing but punishment from God.

That does not mean we deserve contemptible treatment on the part of other human beings or the institutions staffed by them. If disappointment is, as

Wager suggests, the result of inappropriate expectations, should assorted professional religionists be perplexed to the point of verbal condemnation if nothing is placed in their perennially outstretched hands (which in Pastor Wager's case seems to consist of duping listeners into coming and scrubbing his toilets without providing the prevailing market wage)?

### **European Decline Foreshadows America's Potential Fate**

On a non-disclosed social network in response to my column regarding opposition to Christmas in Europe on the part of radical multiculturalists and fanatic Islamists, it was posted, “Why should I care what happens in Sweden?”

Firstly, it was my column.

As such, MY column is a reflection of what I care about.

You, dear reader, have been extended the privilege of the opportunity to ponder what has caught the attention of one of the foremost minds of the twenty-first century.

But more importantly, those that categorize

themselves as secularist European social democrats are idolized by progressivist American liberals.

As such, what transpires there will eventually end up transpiring here.

Just because Donald Trump was elected president that does not mean this sort of politically incorrect nonsense has ceased for evermore.

At best, America was only granted a brief reprieve during which these threats to faith and freedom will grow even more dangerous as numerous patriotic Americans will obviously be lured into a false sense of quiescence.

## **Women Beating Snot From One Another No Worse Than Men Doing So**

An article posted at the Gospel Coalition's website suggests it is unacceptable for Christian men to watch female ultimate fighters.

If it is acceptable to watch men beat the excrement out of one another, why not allow women to do so?

The article elaborates upon a number of the physical differences between men and women.

The point is to emphasize that men are usually stronger than women.

But if these contests remain between competitors of the same gender, such statistics don't have much bearing on the morality of the matter.

In discussion of female ultimate fighting, Pastor Sean Harris at SermonAudio suggested that Christian men should not watch such events because that would be an endorsement of the lesbian lifestyle pursued by a number of these competitors.

Then why, as the pastor of a church, did he allow one of his assistant ministers to invite a male professional wrestler whose gimmick at one time was to portray his character as homosexual to address the student body of the church's day school and then upload the remarks to SermonAudio?

If we are to be this vigilant regarding entertainment, aren't you endorsing the professional wrestler lifestyle where those in that particular line of work often experience dramatically reduced lifespans.

In condemnation of the debauchery afflicting professional sports, Pastor Sean Harris suggested that

athletes engaged in domestic violence or adulterous relationships should not be mentioned in the Christian home.

The question needs to be asked should a similar principle be applied to ministers accused of or abetting similarly egregious shortcomings of character?

If so, shouldn't Pastor Harris have not only avoided praise of C.J. Mahaney but also avoided attending in the name of Christian sanctification and separation a conference sponsored by this minister mired in controversy regarding a child sex abuse scandal and the overall mistreatment of believers under Mahaney's pastoral care?

In the attempt to frighten Christian men into not watching female cage fighting, the pastoral staff of Berean Baptist Church in a podcast uploaded to SermonAudio said a father cannot watch such competitions and then discourage his daughter from pursuing that profession when she expresses an interest. From the way their criticism was articulated, do these pastors have any problem if their sons decide to pursue a career with no other purpose than to destroy human bodies for mere entertainment?

At least in regards to football the bodily injury is the ancillary result of advancing or preventing the ball from moving down field rather than the primary objective.

## **Should Journalists In Their 40's Be A Bit More Street Smart?**

Fox News has settled a sexual harassment claim with former network personality Juliet Huddy over advances made on her by broadcaster Bill O'Reilly. One has to wonder if Huddy at the time might have actually liked some of the attention.

In coverage of these claims, fuss is made that O'Reilly tried to kiss following a tour of his home after a lunch together.

Firstly, this is reason why you don't let visitors into your home.

Well into her 40's and supposedly a journalist,

shouldn't Huddy have known something was up if she gets invited over to a man's house and no one else is there especially given O'Reilly's reputation?

Without a witness other than O'Reilly, how do we not know Huddy wasn't possibly sending mixed signals?

From the account, all it sounds like he tried to do at that instance was to kiss her.

It's not like he tossed her on the bed and proceeded to crawl on top of her in order to have his way with her.

## **About The Author**

*The Calloused Digit* is the newsletter of [Issachar Bible Church & Apologetics Research Institute](#). The content has been composed by Frederick Meekins.